

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

RESOLUTION NO. _____

Adopting the Joint Multnomah County/City of Portland Climate Change Preparation Strategy

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Finds:

- a. The scientific consensus is clear that human activities are largely responsible for the accelerating changes in the global climate.
- b. Changes in the region's climate are already being felt, with measured average temperatures in the Pacific Northwest having increased by 1.3 degrees Fahrenheit over the past century.
- c. The Oregon Climate Change Research Institute has found that climate change poses a significant threat to Oregon's forestry, fisheries, water supplies and coastal resources, and impacts that are likely to include winter flooding, summer droughts, loss of shoreline, forest fires, diminished fish and wildlife habitat, retreating glaciers, decreased snow pack, and increased disease vectors and invasive species.
- d. Multnomah County's climate future is expected to be characterized by hotter, drier summers with more high-heat days, and warmer winters with the potential for more intense rain events.
- e. Risks associated with Multnomah County's climate projections include increases in: 1) temperatures and frequency of high-heat days, 2) incidence of drought, 3) wildfire frequency and intensity, 4) incidence and magnitude of damaging floods, and 5) incidence of landslides.
- f. The entire community will be impacted by climate change, but communities that already face existing socioeconomic and health inequities will be most severely impacted by these risks, including children, older adults, people of color, and people in poverty.
- g. Multnomah County's work to protect public health, reduce poverty and help the community thrive all contribute to a more climate resilient community.
- h. The joint Multnomah County/City of Portland 2009 Climate Action Plan set a roadmap for the County and City to reduce communitywide carbon emissions and also directed the agencies to prepare for a changing climate.

- i. The Climate Change Preparation Strategy proposes 12 objectives and more than 80 actions to build resilience into Multnomah County and the City of Portland's policies, operations, services and infrastructure over the coming years.
- j. The Climate Change Preparation Strategy has been revised in response to comments from the community and a broad array of partner agencies and organizations working on climate change locally, and underscores the essential role of equity, natural systems, and public health.

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Resolves:

- 1. To adopt the joint Multnomah County/City of Portland Climate Change Preparation Strategy and Risk & Vulnerabilities Assessment.
- 2. Direct the Office of Sustainability to work with County Departments to implement Strategy recommendations, including consideration of climate change impacts in the County's planning and program delivery.
- 3. Periodic progress reporting on the implementation of the Strategy shall be presented to the Board of County Commissioners by the Office of Sustainability.

ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 20__.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

Deborah Kafoury, Chair

REVIEWED:

JENNY M. MADKOUR, COUNTY ATTORNEY
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

By _____
Jenny M. Madkour

SUBMITTED BY: